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I N S I D E

Around the CNMI

House wants authority over CIP, fed money

By **MARIAN A. MARAYA**
REPORTER

ROTA—The House of Representatives wants to claim legislative authority over the disposal of capital improvement project funds allotted to the CNMI by the federal government, citing the absence of local statute that defines the procedure of who exactly has discretionary power to disburse the financial assistance monies.

Ten House members present during a Rota session on

Friday voted for the passage of House Bill 14-144 intended for this purpose, offered by Speaker Benigno R. Fitial.

Fitial came up with the bill after consulting with the U.S. Department of the Interior. Office of Insular Affairs Director Nikolao I. Pula had advised Fitial, on behalf of Interior Secretary Gale Norton, that "... the involvement of the legislature in future Covenant grants is entirely a matter of local law and policies."

"We don't have a statute yet.

According to the letter from Interior, they're telling us that it's really up to us. So that's the purpose of this bill, to establish a procedure; that before anything can be distributed, disbursed or executed, it has to be approved by the Legislature first... All these time, it has been the governor who has made the decision because there's no statute," explained Fitial.

The presiding officer earlier asked the Interior for advice on the Legislature's role in approving CIP and other grant proj-

ects funded by the OIA.

Pula, in a letter to Fitial, responded last March 12, citing, among others, that "the Office of Insular Affairs does not get involved in matters internal to the insular governments. In the last Special Representatives' Agreement, the terms of which governed funding from fiscal year 1993 through fiscal year 2003, it was important to Federal interests that the legislature be involved in the process because of a requirement for a matching share from local revenues."

HB 14-144 essentially seeks to require legislative approval for the funding of any capital improvement project from federal financial assistance received via the Covenant, Compact impact, or through special appropriation.

The bill seeks to insert Section 7505 in the Commonwealth Code to read: Capital Improvement Project Legislative Approval Required.

The section states that "Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no capital improvement project may be funded, in total or in part, from federal funds obtained pursuant to the Covenant or to the Impact Aid for the Compact of Free Association or through a special appropriated by the U.S. Congress, unless specifically approved first by the Legislature."

The said projects include but are not limited to: public school and college facilities, streets,

highways, roads, parking, wastewater, storm drainage, and sewage removal or treatment facilities, solid waste disposal (including landfill or incineration), remediation, recycling or resource recovery facilities; water supply, treatment (including desalination) or distribution facilities; judicial or criminal justice facilities; power generation or distribution facilities (including refinancing of generators previously purchased); public health facilities, fire suppression facilities; tourism related public facilities; seaport facilities; public buildings, facilities, improvements, equipment or furnishings; and public parks.

According to the proposed section, the Governor or his designee shall submit any necessary document describing any project affected by this section to the respective presiding officers of the legislature for action.

Archipelagic management of ecosystem pushed

The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council voted Friday to begin development of archipelagic fishery management plans that will address resource issues on an ecosystem basis.

Under this approach, individual fishery management plans for bottom fish, precious coral, crustacean and coral reef ecosystems fishery management plans would be eliminated and these insular resources would be managed together under a single ecosystem management plan.

These plans would be regionally based, with the Mariana Islands archipelago (Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands), the Hawaii archipelago (Main Hawaiian islands and the Northwestern Hawaiian islands and possibly Johnston Atoll), and the American Samoa archipelago comprising separate regions.

The Council also approved its new policy document on marine protected areas. The policy document, which can be obtained from the Council website, takes into consideration the uniqueness of Pacific islanders and their dependence on marine resources, while fully supporting the need to develop integrated ecologically based MPAs.

New regulations implementing the Council's Coral Reef Ecosystem FMP became effective Friday. These include several types of marine protected areas, prohibitions on the use of destructive and non-

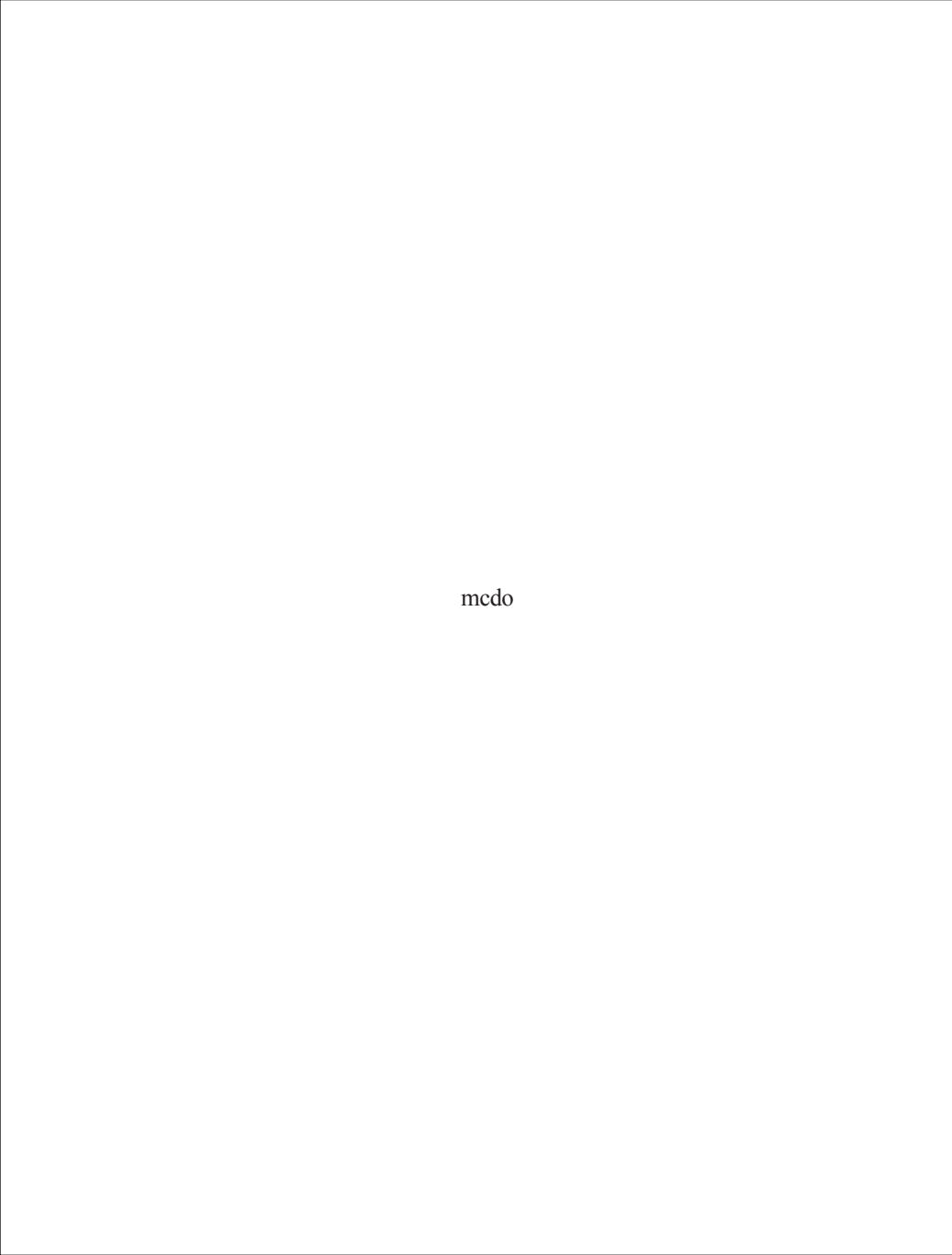
selective fishing gears, and federal permit and reporting requirements for fishing for coral reef species designated as Potentially Harvested Coral Reef Taxa. (The Federal Register notice containing these regulations is available on the Council's website).

The Council is continuing to develop additional requirements to conserve seabirds and sea turtles. Measures discussed for longline vessels based in American Samoa, Guam or the Northern Mariana Islands include requirements to attend NMFS Protected Species Workshops, use dip nets, line clipper, bolt cutters, and follow sea turtle resuscitation and release guidelines, and use circle hooks and mackerel-type bait and dehookers when shallow setting north of the equator. Other (non-longline) pelagic vessels would be required to remove trailing gear from hooked or entangled sea turtles and follow sea turtle resuscitation and release guidelines.

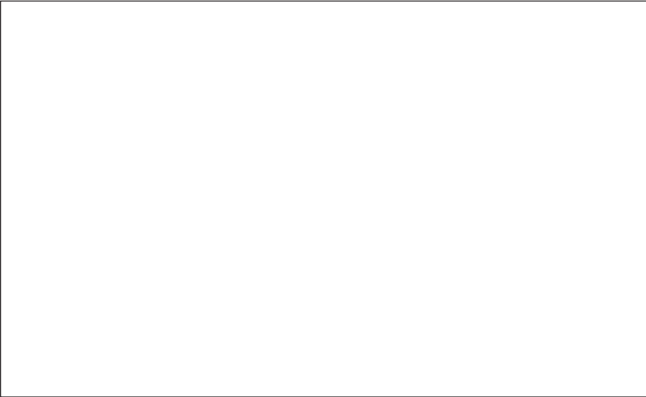
The Council is the policy-making agency for fisheries management in federal waters (3-200 miles offshore) around American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Hawaii, and the US Pacific Island possessions- an area of nearly 1.5 million square miles.

For more information, call (808) 522-8220, fax (808) 522-8226; e-mail infor.wpcouncil@noaa.gov or log on to www.wpcouncil.noaa.gov

SHANGHAI CIRCUS
CMYK





WEATHER FORECAST





PICTURE TIME: 2:25 A.M., DECEMBER 17, 2003
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.


A monsoon trough extends from 6N130E through a tropical disturbance near 8N145E and finally to near 5N160E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the disturbance are found in the Mariana islands as well as between Yap and Chuuk or between 4N and 16N from 139E to 153E. Just east of the monsoon trough, a surface trough of low pressure continues to near the equator at 168E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are developing north and east of the trough or within 100 miles either side of a line from 9N160E to the equator at 173E, including Kosrae. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across portions of the Marshall islands, between 4N and 16N from 170E to 180.

 **SAIPAN AND TINIAN**
Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers.
Temperature: Lows near 78. Highs near 86.


 **GUAM AND ROTA**
Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers.
Temperature: Lows near 78. Highs near 86.


 **PALAU**
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.




















 **POHNPEI**
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: East at 10 kt.

 **YAP AND ULITHI**
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.

 **KOSRAE**
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Southeast at 10 kt.

 **CHUUK**
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers with a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: Northeast at 10-15 kt.

 **MAJURO**
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: East at 10-15 kt.

CITY		FORECAST	HIGH	LOW
	Auckland	Cloudy	61F (16C)	49F (9C)
	Beijing	Sunny	44F (7C)	26F (-3C)
	Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	74F (23C)	61F (16C)
	Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86F (30C)	72F (22C)
	London, England	Cloudy	56F (13C)	45F (7C)
	Los Angeles	Cloudy	69F (21C)	51F (11C)
	Manila	Cloudy	88F (31C)	71F (22C)
	Melbourne	Sunny	73F (23C)	54F (12C)
	Miami	Partly Cloudy	84F (29C)	75F (24C)
	New York, NY	Cloudy	52F (11C)	48F (9C)
	Osaka	Rain	54F (12C)	46F (8C)
	Paris	Cloudy	53F (12C)	41F (5C)
	Pusan	Rain	58F (14C)	43F (6C)
	Rome	Partly Cloudy	55F (13C)	39F (4C)
	Salem, Oregon	Rain	54F (12C)	38F (3C)
	San Francisco	Sunny	64F (18C)	47F (5C)
	Seoul	Rain	52F (11C)	45F (7C)
	Tokyo	Rain	55F (13C)	49F (9C)
	Washington, DC	Cloudy	60F (16C)	48F (9C)

Guerrero: Yangetmai has the right to question Teacher Rep poll result

Board of Education member Herman Guerrero commented yesterday that Marianas High School teacher James Yangetmai has the prerogative to question the results of the recently concluded Teacher Representative election, which the Association of Commonwealth Teacher candidate lost to Kagman High School teacher Ambrose Ben-



Guerrero

nett. “Anyone [who] is running can always question [the election result]. I think they [administration] need to ensure whether he has valid points or not. If it’s not valid, then at least you settle the issue. And there’s no cloud hanging over the whole process. “It’s a democratic process. People who lose sometimes ask or think there are discrepancies or procedures [that were] not followed. If that is the case then the people that are conducting the election needs to refute them and say that this is what we did, and this the process and the procedures,” said the official, who recently lost the BOE chairmanship to Roman Benavente. Yangetmai, who lagged behind Bennett by 16 votes in Monday’s poll, hinted of possible vote manipulation, casting

doubts on the election’s credibility. ACT claimed the process was not valid and fair, as it allegedly lacked transparency. The group raised the absence of its own representative at the polling center. “I guess in any election, there’s a need to be clear on the process and procedures. If the one who lost is questioning the validity of the election then perhaps they need to revisit [the issue] and make sure there’s no doubt that what they certified is true and correct. The process has to be followed and it has to be transparent so nobody can question it,” insisted Guerrero, who called on House legislators yesterday. The BOE member representing Saipan was also curious over the dismal turnout in Monday’s election.

“When you only have 28 percent [of] eligible voters voting, that’s an extremely low turnout. With this kind of turnout, there’s no clear mandate from the teachers. So it’s questionable. One can raise the question why you don’t have many who voted? There’s a lot of questions why,” he asserted. Gov. Juan N. Babauta proclaimed Bennett’s victory on Tuesday, a day after the Teacher Representative poll was held here Monday and simultaneously on Rota and Tinian. The chief executive stressed that teacher representation in the BOE is constitutionally mandated. He said that concerns raised over the selection has prompted his office to hold the election so that all public school teachers in the CNMI could choose a representative that would truly represent them.

Babauta credited the Public School System, the BOE, the

PSS legal counsel, the Attorney General’s Office and the administration for putting together a fair and objective selection process. Of the 500 full-time teachers who were eligible to vote, Babauta confirmed that only 142 teachers or 28 percent cast their votes. He lamented the minimal participation. According to the breakdown, Yangetmai garnered 62 votes while Bennett gained 78 votes. Two ballots were reportedly cast without votes. Babauta explained that only full time teachers were eligible to vote in this election, quoting PSS’ definition of full time teachers as any person who is employed by the Public School System and has the primary responsibility for the education, instruction or provides related services for one or more students. *(Marian A. Maraya)*

Paras signs payment schedule with CHC

By LIBERTY DONES
REPORTER

Paras Enterprises president Juan T. Guerrero has signed a payment schedule agreement with the Department of Public Health only last week. Earlier, Paras legal counsel Mark Smith clarified that no agreement had been reached yet as of Jan. 8 as previously agreed by both parties. Guerrero said yesterday that Paras signed the payment schedule only last Jan. 14. On January 16, he said Paras received an additional \$100,000 payment from DPH. Based on the schedule, the department will give another payment of \$80,000 to Paras on Jan. 30 and some \$50,000 on Feb. 13. Guerrero said Paras and DPH continue to negotiate for the \$50,000 billing. “We have submitted our billing for \$50,000. I don’t know why they’re disputing our billing now when in the last six years,

they never did,” said Guerrero. He said Paras submitted \$248,000 billing to DPH as of Jan. 7, 2004. Based on the schedule, the DPH only acknowledged some \$230,000. “There is some flexibility but we’ll still pursue what is really due us,” said Guerrero, adding that the department itself is charging Paras some \$11,000 for outstanding hospital bills. This amount would be assessed against the last payment to Paras. “We’ll settle that but I’m not really sure how much we owe them so we have to discuss that,” he said. Guerrero also clarified that he has not signed any expiration transfer agreement with the department, which would “legalize” the transfer of Paras employees to the Commonwealth Health Center. Some authorities, however, said that a consensual transfer agreement with Paras is no longer need-

ed since its contracts with employees provide that their termination of employment goes with Paras’ contract termination with CHC. Both parties have agreed to finalize their payment schedule in view of the DPH’ shift to direct hiring of nursing staff effective Jan. 1, 2004. Paras and other agencies’ contracts with CHC ended on Dec. 31, 2003 but transfer negotiations dragged along pending the settlement of the government’s debt with the companies and the lack of funded FTEs or positions at the department. On Jan. 2, Finance released \$100,000 each to Paras and Saipan Employment Agency Services as partial payment. The government terminated its contracts with agencies on the belief that direct hiring would result in better delivery of health care and boost employee morale. The direct hiring aims to implement a uniform pay for all nursing staff.

DEQ heightens illegal dumping campaign

The Division of Environmental Quality warned that it would impose a fine on anyone caught illegally dumping trash on the islands. DEQ director John I. Castro Jr. urged the public to respect the no littering signs the agency has installed at beach parks and other areas. “We will assess a fine. Our regulations allow us to impose up to \$25,000 per day of violation,” Castro said. The DEQ hopes that the move will deter the public from illegally disposing of trash and household wastes. Castro said trash should be disposed of at the Lower Base

Refuse Transfer Station or the Marpi landfill. “Help us. It’s not just the DEQ’s job to keep Saipan beautiful but it’s also the public’s responsibility,” Castro added. The Environmental Interagency Cleanup Operation Team, of which DEQ is a member, and volunteers from non-profit group MOVER recently conducted an emergency cleanup in Garapan’s Makaka beach site, which had deteriorated due to illegal dumping. According to EICOT chairman Benny Pangelinan, people just ignored the DEQ’s no-littering sign at the site. *(John Ravelo)*

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Opinion

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EDITORIAL

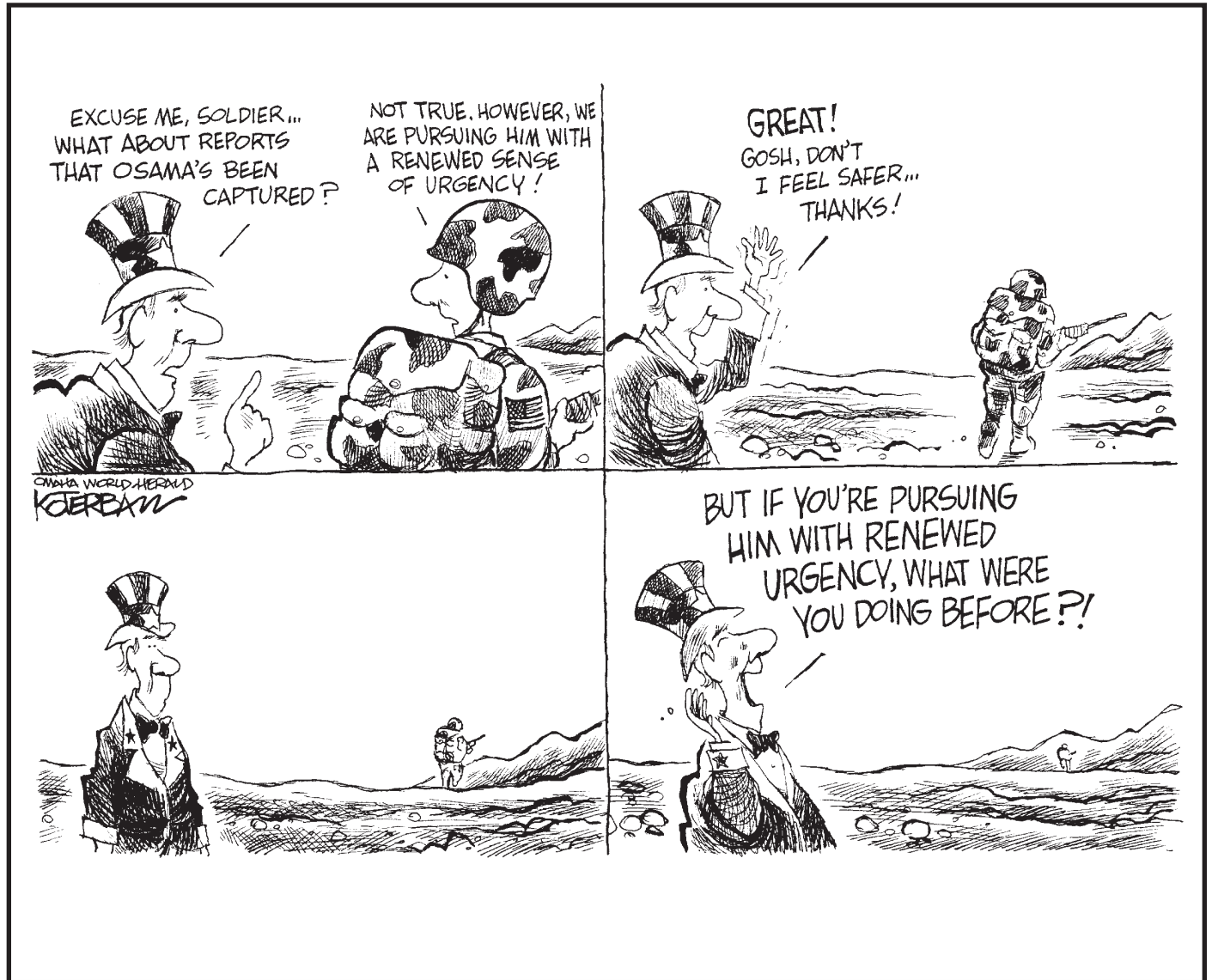
3/11

The Bush administration's clumsy diplomacy and its critics' hyperbolic charges of "unilateralism" sometimes obscure the fact that the United States has had true and valuable allies in the war on terrorism. Thursday one of the best of those, Spain, suffered a blow as shocking and as terrible as any the enemy has landed since Sept. 11, 2001. Authorities said that more than 190 people were killed and more than 1,200 injured when 10 backpacks crammed with compressed dynamite exploded on four trains in Madrid at the height of the morning rush hour. It remained unclear Thursday night who was responsible; police initially blamed the Basque ETA organization but later discovered evidence pointing to al-Qaida. Either way, as Spanish Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar put it, "March 11, 2004, has taken its place in the history of infamy."

Aznar, who is to leave office after an election scheduled for Sunday, has done as much as any foreign leader to support President Bush's consecutive campaigns against al-Qaida and Saddam Hussein during the past two years. Toughened by Spain's long fight against ETA, the Spanish leader understood better than most European leaders the threat posed by terrorists to modern democracies. Spain was instrumental in locating and capturing al-Qaida operatives, including several on its territory. And Spanish troops joined U.S. forces in Iraq last year as Aznar grittily joined with Britain's Tony Blair in standing by Bush, despite the opposition of most of the Spanish public. His strong leadership paid off. Though Spanish troops have suffered painful casualties, Aznar's party was favored to win the upcoming elections over an opposition that favored withdrawing from Iraq.

The terrorists who struck Thursday, whether from ETA or al-Qaida, no doubt hoped to punish Aznar for his firmness and persuade Spaniards to abandon his policies. "This is part of settling old accounts with Spain, the crusader, and America's ally in its war against Islam," said a purported al-Qaida statement received by an Arabic newspaper. But the early signs were that the crime would rally support across Europe for Spain, and for resoluteness in an ongoing war. "Democracies must be—and will be—united in combating this without weakness," said French President Jacques Chirac. The horror of Madrid only confirms that a broad and determined alliance is the only answer to terrorism. It reminds us that the United States neither fights, nor suffers, alone.

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Parents work so teens can spend

By **JERRY ZEZIMA**
Special to The Stamford Advocate

As a man with two daughters who made it through their teenage years without, miraculously, bankrupting their mother and me, although there was rarely enough cash left over to blow on extravagant luxuries such as food and shelter, I have often said that when your children selfishly insist on eating every day, money comes in handy.

Now I know why. According to a story in the Journal of Neuroscience, there is a significant difference in the developing teenage brain and the mature brain of an adult when faced with the opportunity to make money.

Scientists found that as adults worked to make money in a research task, they experienced an increase in blood flow in the nucleus accumbens, a region deep in the middle of the brain. In contrast, adolescents between the ages of 12 and 17 who performed the same research task had half the blood flow and volume in this region. "It tells us that teenagers love stuff, but aren't as willing to get off the couch to get it as adults are," said James Bjork, one of the scientists who conducted the study.

I don't want to disparage the scientists or minimize their research, but any parent who now has or has ever had a teenager could have told them that.

Besides, I don't think this study gives teens enough credit for having the brainpower to obtain the money they need for the stuff they love.

In fact, I'll go even further and say that it's the teenagers who are enterprising and the adults who are lazy.

Using my own seven-year research (my daughters, who are 23 and 21, were in the five-year range of 12-17, with two additional years to account for the age difference), I can say unequivocally that the increased blood flow in the nucleus accumbens region of the adult brain occurs as the result of constant demands by teenagers for money, leading to a common medical condition in parents known as high blood pressure.

This has a profound effect on the thought processes of parents, who are eventually rendered helpless, and therefore lazy, in the face of such relentless assaults. The fol-

lowing typical conversation serves as an example.

Mother (standing in the kitchen): Your daughter wanted 50 bucks yesterday to get her hair cut.

Father: My daughter? She's yours, too. Maybe that's why she hit me up for 30 bucks so she could go to the mall.

Mother: You're too easy.

Father: Me? You're the one who got her into the shopping habit.

Mother: It's about time we put our feet down.

Father: You're right. This kid must think we're made of money.

Mother: From now on, we have to learn how to say no.

Teenager (yelling from the couch): I need a new backpack to carry my books or I'm gonna flunk out of school.

Mother (rushing into the family room): Sure, honey.

Father (taking out his wallet): How much do you need?

In fairness to teens, they can't get jobs until they turn 16, which is why I tried for so many years, starting when my kids were in elementary school, to get the child labor laws repealed. Now it's too late. Besides, even if teenagers do get jobs, they need transportation, which means: (a) you have to buy them a car or (b) they have to use yours. Either way, with gas and insurance costs, you're out even more money.

Eventually, teenagers get off the couch so they can go places to spend the money their parents have given them. The parents, in turn, get older and more tired from working so hard to make the money their teenagers need. This is why parents spend an increasing amount of time on the couch, where they usually fall asleep each night and miss not only the 11 o'clock news, but also their teenagers, who have come in late and can't get up in the morning and spend a large portion of their precious little time at home on the couch, thus leading their parents to believe, wrongly, that teenagers are lazy.

I guess those scientists don't have kids.

And now, to the parents of teenagers, I will report the final and most important part of my research: If you think your money supply is low and your blood pressure is high now, just wait until they go to college.

Zezima will write this column until he can afford to stop.

Fresh air for stale structures

By **EDWARD MAZRIA**

Special to the Los Angeles Times

In our quest to dramatically cut greenhouse gas emissions and lessen our dependence on fossil fuels, we have contented ourselves by pointing a finger at gas-guzzling sport utility vehicles. And in doing so we have overlooked the biggest source of emissions and energy consumption both in this country and around the globe: architecture.

If you took all sport utility vehicles off the road tomorrow and replaced them with hybrids, the effect on energy use and global warming would be minimal. The entire fleet of SUVs, minivans and light-duty trucks in this country accounts for only 6.5 percent of the total U.S. energy consumed each year, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. And although that doesn't mean we should abandon efforts to produce more efficient, environmentally friendly SUVs, it does illustrate a huge blind spot in U.S. energy consciousness.

Buildings and their construction account for nearly half of all the greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumed in this country each year. Globally, the percentage is even greater. And architects hold the key to turning down the global thermostat.

The reason for this is quite simple. Although our country's fleet of autos and light trucks could turn over within about 12 years and be replaced by more efficiently run vehicles, buildings have a lifespan (and energy consumption and emissions pattern) of 50 to 100 years.

The problem is that buildings consume energy mainly in the form of burning oil, natural gas and coal, and U.S. oil and gas production has been in decline since the 1970s. Global oil and natural gas reserves are limited; most of these remaining reserves are in a small area stretching from Saudi Arabia to Siberia, an unstable part of the world. This leaves coal. The United States, Russia, China, Australia and India have plenty of it, and it is cheap—and dirty. Clean coal technologies are decades away—as is capturing and storing carbon dioxide—and they are costly.

Architects know that buildings can be designed to require less than half the energy of today's average U.S. building, with no additional cost. This is accomplished through proper siting, building form, material selection and glass properties and location and by incorporating day-lighting strategies and natural heating, cooling and ventilation.

To achieve such a reduction, government at all levels must pass laws that all major governmental building renovation and new building projects be designed to use half the energy now typically consumed. When these standards are in widespread use, building codes for all housing developments and commercial, institutional and multifamily buildings can be changed to the standard in place for government buildings.

With about 5 billion square feet of new construction and 5 billion square feet of renovation taking place in the United States each year, the potential for reducing energy consumption and carbon dioxide emissions is enormous. This would put the United States well on its way toward meeting its international obligations and demonstrate a way for developing nations to cut emissions without sacrificing economic growth.

There is no short-term or long-term greenhouse gas solution possible without involving the architectural and building communities. With abrupt rather than gradual climate change looming as a possibility, quickly engaging this sector becomes critical.

Mazria is an architect in Santa Fe, N.M. He is author of "The Passive Solar Energy Book" (Rodale Press, 1979).



By **RUTH L. TIGHE**

The importance of recording history, of writing and publishing firsthand accounts of historical events as—or shortly after—they occur is exemplified by the book "An Honorable Accord," written by Howard Willens and Deanne Siemer. The "Honorable Accord" of the title is the CNMI's Covenant, and the book records, in a fair amount of detail, the debate, discussions, maneuvers, manipulations, conflicts and compromises that were involved in creating the document that defines the relationship between the CNMI and the U.S.

One of the issues addressed in the book is representation of the new Commonwealth in Washington, D.C. The Covenant provides for a "representative" to the U.S. rather than the non-voting delegate to the U.S. Congress that all of the other insular entities have.

Some people appear to believe that the position of an elected Washington Representative was deliberately chosen by the CNMI to distinguish it from the other entities. The Washington Rep was a distinctive feature—somewhat like an ambassador, with both submitting their credentials to the State Department—that emphasized the uniqueness of the CNMI's relationship to the U.S. Giving up that distinction would be harmful, according to their beliefs, since it would result in the CNMI looking more like all the rest of the entities. It is, I confess, a belief that I also have held.

A reading of Willens and Siemer's book, however, reveals that such was not the case. The desire for a non-voting delegate was there from the very beginning. Even sharing Guam's delegate was discussed. But the U.S. was adamant. The decision to afford the CNMI representation by an "agent" (rather than a commissioner) was, in fact, a compromise, not the CNMI preference.

If it weren't for recorded history, the truth of the matter might have remained in question. But with the testimony offered by Willens' book, there can be no doubt. The desire for a non-voting delegate to the U.S. Congress, as present Washington Rep Pete A. Tenorio keeps insisting, has been there from the very beginning.

Speaking of negotiations with the powers-that-be in Washington, D.C., isn't it interesting that, months after the fact, all sorts of objections and protests are being voiced at the CNMI's awarding a very sizeable contract to Danny Aranza, former Director of the U.S. Department of Interior Office of Insular Affairs? Members of both the CNMI House and Senate, as well as Board of Education officials, have gone on record this past week to say that the contract awarded to Aranza's firm for preparing the CNMI's homeland security strategic plan was an unnecessary and wasteful expenditure of funds.

It would appear that the purpose of this belated outcry is to placate and appease the U.S. House leadership, which, it is rumored, was not at all inclined to consider the bill granting the CNMI a non-voting delegate with any sympathy—despite the supportive-seeming committee hearing—because of the continuing association of Aranza *et al.* with the CNMI administration.

Whether this belated show of anti-Aranza posture will have any effect remains to be seen.

At the risk of being called a heretic, a traitor, or worse, I can't help but ask why only one party to the "liberation" of Saipan will be so extravagantly honored during the celebration of the 60th anniversary of its occurrence. Being feted are the U.S. military who, during the invasion, fought and killed thousands of Japanese soldiers.

Particularly since the Japanese are no longer the enemy but the mainstay of the CNMI tourist industry, one would think that every effort would be made to temper, soften, deflect this slaughter and any remaining evidence thereof. Instead, 60 years later, as much of the militarism as can still be mustered will be featured—and flaunted—not only here in the CNMI, but worldwide. And as star feature of this glorification of war, Paul Tibbets Jr., pilot of the plane that dropped the bomb that annihilated millions of innocent

Amid the laughter, the need for tears

By **MARTHA MCNEIL HAMILTON**

The Washington Post

I've been to a lot of hilarious funerals and memorial services in the past year.

They were for good friends and former colleagues who were remembered with deep affection and many reminders of the reasons they were beloved.

But after one such service I came home and cried for hours until I finally felt some relief from my grief. The memorial service had been beautiful. Friends and family members spoke, reminding us of the wonderful, maddening, inspirational and idiosyncratic individual we had lost. Yet the service left me unsatisfied. It wasn't until I came home that I felt able to truly grieve at the unfairness of the loss.

We've become too urbane in the face of death. I like a good story as much as anyone, and I reveled in hearing what was really a superb collection of extraordinarily funny recollections. But what was missing was the collective wail that the death of a wonderful individual should have set off.

There were moments, brief moments, when speakers focused on solemnity and pain. And all spoke with love. Still, my sense was that there was a crowd of very accomplished, very funny, very self-consciously

Japanese civilians, is slated to be guest speaker.

And what of the Chamorros and Carolinians, whose homes and businesses were destroyed in the war, whose ranks were also decimated, who were "liberated" only to be placed in internment camps? Should not those who survived be equally honored? Shouldn't the caves where they sought refuge—in which some were trapped and died—also be memorialized?

How much more humane, healing, compassionate, merciful, uplifting, it would have been if the 60th, and indeed the 50th before it, were focused on peace, on forgiveness, on forging cooperation and understanding rather than emphasizing war, and killing and weapons of destruction. There is too much war in the world. So-called "terrorism" notwithstanding, the CNMI had an opportunity to promote peace and peaceful co-existence. Too bad it hasn't.

Short takes:

Anyone who has encountered a non-responsive 800 number should call either consumer counsel Brian Caldwell at the Attorney General's office (664-2341), director of the Telecommunications Committee Adam Turner (664-2209) or Verizon general manager Anthony Mosley (234-6100).

Mosley explained earlier this week, at a Telecommunications Committee meeting, that access to 800 numbers is determined by those organizations and companies who hold them, and the holders are not required to make 800 numbers universally available. But if the 800 number is not available only because the holder is unaware that the CNMI is part of the U.S. system, Mosley said Verizon would notify the holder of the error.

One of the most significant archaeological sites on Saipan is said to be in, on, and around the "footprint" of a hotel once proposed for the Nakamoto site in Garapan. Now the CNMI government is proposing to construct an artificial wetland on the site as a means of treating rain run-off from the Garapan Revitalization project. Said CIP Coordinator Chuck Jordan on MCV last night, "The most cost-effective way of treating the water is through a reconstructed wetlands."

Let us hope the site's artifacts are properly identified and protected—or removed—before being inundated.

And speaking of water: to all those who wrote to say that ice and steam are also water, I beg to differ. They are all forms of H₂O. But the word water refers only to the liquid manifestation, as any dictionary will confirm.

Would it speed up the demise of the destructive scarlet gourd vines on island if schools took on as science projects the breeding of the leaf-mining weevils that eat the vines?

My arithmetic handicap popped up again in last week's column. Aranza wasn't paid \$600,000. He was paid only (!) \$400,000—\$200,000 for the original contract, and \$200,000 more through an amendment.

Did anyone note the Nissan ad in the "Pacific Daily News" last week? It bragged about "moving mountains of dirt to create acres of customer parking and new and used car display." Well, perhaps Guam has enough land to afford acres of paving, but even so, I wouldn't brag about it. Paving adds to the heat sink, and in replacing vegetation, also adds to air pollution.

Technically speaking, the settlement agreement between the Marine Revitalization Corporation, Anthony Pellegrino and the CNMI government is dead, because the agreement itself says, "Absent enactment of a public law by the 13th CNMI Legislature within four months of the execution of this Settlement Agreement [which did not happen], there is no Settlement Agreement, and the arbitration shall resume."

Arbitration has not resumed, though a status conference is scheduled for some time next month.

Last but not least: according to the coconut wireless, a number of would-be TESOL students feel deprived because the Canadian Institute of English course has, apparently, been canceled. I would have thought they'd feel a great deal more deprived once they realized that their \$650 certificate bought them only a "certificate [that] can stand alone if you wish to teach volunteer classes or privately from your home"—to quote from its website "you asked" feature. (See "Will my certificate be recognized?" at <http://www.cie.ca/youasked.htm>).

sophisticated people trying to keep pain at bay. And we should have let it in the door. We should have acknowledged it.

There's a good reason we have formalized rituals for grieving. At a traditional funeral or memorial service, though there may be laughs during the eulogy and remembrances, most of the service is sad. Beautiful, evocative music. Prayers and scriptural reminders of both inescapable mortality and hoped-for immortality. The quiet ushering in and out of family.

More and more the services I attend, except for much older friends and family, depart from that script for something more personal and less solemn. In some ways, it makes for a wonderful remembrance of the friend or relative who is lost. But often it feels as if something is missing.

It's not that no one was weeping at the services I attended. Many people were. But we were weeping silently and individually, as if it weren't on the agenda. I reached a knuckle up to stop a tear, pretending to scratch my cheek. A few weeks after one such occasion, I said to another friend of the deceased, "I didn't see you at the memorial service."

"I was there," he said. "But I left immediately after, because I was crying, and it didn't seem to be that type of occasion."

Celebrating life is wonderful. But let's not forget to mourn death. It hurts.

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3 men arrested for alleged assault

By EDITH G. ALEJANDRO
REPORTER

Authorities arrested Monday night three men who have been a subject of intensive investigations by law enforcers since November 2003 when a 43-year-old man lodged a complaint against them.

Police department spokesperson Sgt. Tom Blas Jr. said Martin F. Borja, 38; Chris W. Taimanglo, 20; and William M. Faisao, 19, were arrested based on the arrest warrants issued against them by Judge Juan Lizama.

Blas said COPPS officers Jesse Seman and Sandy Hambros arrested the three suspects in connection with a Nov. 16, 2003, assault case lodged by Saburo Stewart, 43.

Lizama issued the warrants after the police released the results of its investigation on the case. The officers immediately served the warrants to the suspects. All three were brought to the Adult Correctional facility in Susupe where they were booked and detained pending bail hearing.

The investigation report showed that the police department received a call for assistance around 1:28am of Nov. 16, 2003, due to a disturbance in the house of Stewart in Kagman III area. Medics were also dispatched due to injuries sustained by the victim.

According to the report, the victim and two of the three suspects were involved in a fight outside the victim's house. During the squabble, the suspects used rocks, a machete, and a baseball bat to allegedly attack the victim, causing serious injuries.

Stewart reportedly sustained lacerations on the back, legs, and arms, as well as other cuts and bruises on his body.

After the investigation, probers determined the culpability of the three suspects and asked that arrest warrants be issued against them.

The suspects are now facing disturbing the peace, assault and battery, assault with dangerous weapons, and criminal mischief charges.

Taiwanese boat seized off New Caledonia

A Taiwanese fishing boat has been intercepted south of New Caledonia for fishing illegally.

The French high commission in the New Caledonia capitol of Noumea says the ship had been spotted by a French surveillance aircraft and an inspection showed it carried dozens of tons of fresh and frozen fish.

The interception comes just days after the captain of another Taiwanese fishing boat was jailed for six months and fined almost US\$200,000 for fishing illegally. (RNZI/PIR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

EMPHASIS ON EDUCATION

Saipan Southern High School students gather around Gov. Juan N. Babauta during the chief executive's recent visit at the campus, in line with the administration's education program. Babauta has been putting emphasis on public education as an important tool in the eventual recovery of the local economy.

MPLA board in limbo due to lack of quorum

By LIBERTY DONES
REPORTER

The lack of a quorum on the Board of Directors of the Marianas Public Lands Authority is stymieing efforts to move ahead on critical projects, including 36 new offers for land compensation that require the board's approval.

Only two members remain on the Board—chairperson, Ana Demapan-Castro and vice chairman Manny Villagomez—following the resignation of a member and term expiration of another.

Member Pedro M. Atalig resigned from the board effective Jan. 1, 2004, while member

Pedro Igitol's term expired on Dec. 31, 2003.

The board is composed of five seats, with one representative each from Tinian and Rota and three from Saipan. The CNMI Constitution also provides that one of the directors should be of Carolinian descent, while another should represent women.

At the moment, Demapan-Castro represents Saipan and the women's sector, while Villagomez represents Tinian. This means nobody is representing Rota, the Carolinians, and two seats for Saipan.

This, even as the MPLA has already readied 36 new offers for land compensation that re-

quire the board's approval.

"We have to get the board's approval before we can make the offer but the board can't possibly meet right now for lack of quorum," said MPLA commissioner Henry S. Hofschneider.

The board normally holds a regular meeting on the third Thursday of the month.

Hofschneider said that some names have been floated for appointment by the governor to the board. He declined to identify them.

Meantime, he said that 38 landowners have accepted the MPLA's initial offers and are like likely to get their compensation within the month.

"Once Finance puts the

money in MPLA's special account, we can start cutting checks," he said.

Hofschneider said that MPLA is offering "just and fair" compensation to landowners.

The MPLA board approved 75 folders for immediate land compensation last month. This came soon after the CNMI government floated a \$40-million bond, with the proceeds to be used primarily to settle the longstanding land claims by individuals against the government. The first batch of claims included acquisition of rights-of-way.

The Land Compensation Act mandates the government to prioritize the payment for lands used for rights-of-way, then

ponding basins, and later wetlands and other claims.

The payment to landowners is based on the valuation at the time of taking by the Commonwealth.

The MPLA has listed some 120 eligible land claimants in the CNMI.

Of the \$40-million bond, only about \$27 million will be used for land compensation, as \$11 million has been allotted to fund a pending prison project. The bond's Hawaii-based underwriter also deducted \$1.5 million from the total amount for cost of the bond issuance.

The government is given 30 years to pay off the loan at an annual interest of 6.75 percent.

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Good Housekeeping

Let the sun shine in

By JIM SHEA
THE HARTFORD COURANT

Sunroom.

If the word conjures up images of an architectural afterthought, of a long span of smoked, curved glass that is too hot to inhabit in summer and too cold to endure in winter, then it might be time to re-conjure.

Today's sunrooms not only come in a wide variety of shapes and sizes, they also have evolved into comfortable year-round living spaces.

Virginia and Richard Roberts of Salem, Conn., added a "Victorian" conservatory to their home two years ago and couldn't be happier with the light and airy space.

"We use this room every day, even in the winter," Virginia says. "The only time we didn't use it this winter was when we had that sub-zero week. We could have made it warm enough, but the heat (electric baseboard) would have been running constantly."

"Usually we just leave the sliding doors (to the main house) open and set the heat at 60 degrees, which is very comfortable."

The modern sunroom is an offspring of the greenhouse. The main difference is in the glass. While the greenhouse relies on standard glass, which has little, if any, insulating ability, today's sunrooms are fashioned from materials that deflect and retain heat, insulate, cut down on glare, block UV rays and even self-clean.

For the Roberts' conservatory, something called "MC2 Wonderglass," developed by Four Seasons Sunrooms, was used.

"Wonderglass keeps a room cooler in summer and warmer in winter," says Matt Ostrowski of Norwich, Conn.-based Creative Enclosures, which designed and constructed the Roberts conservatory.

Basically this type of glass works by reflecting and deflecting, so it keeps the heat from the sun out in summer while keeping home-generated heat inside in winter.

The sunroom shell also has changed. The exteriors often are constructed of lightweight aluminum with vinyl cladding, while the interior



THE HARTFORD COURANT

A recent snowfall makes a day in the conservatory pleasant for the Roberts family of Salem, Conn. "You can sit here and look out at the hillside, and you feel like you're in Colorado," Richard Roberts says.

Virginia Roberts, left, her husband, Richard, and their daughter Megan, 16, enjoy a quiet afternoon with their cat in their English-conservatory-style sunroom, which they had built onto the back of their Salem, Conn., home.

THE HARTFORD COURANT

they seldom used the backyard deck, which was on the north side. "It sat in the shadows most of the day and was usually cold back there," Virginia says.

Eventually the Roberts got together with Ostrowski at Creative Design.

Initially, they were just going to add a standard Four Seasons "Victorian" conservatory, but as they became more involved, they decided to expand it on both sides to increase its size.

The entire construction took about two months.

"My mother (who lives with the family) likes to come out here and read," Virginia says. "My daughters have their parties out here, and at Christmas, we put a second tree here. I like to come sit out here when it's raining. It's very relaxing."

Richard says he is partial to the snow. "When it's snowing, you can sit here

and look out at the hillside, and you feel like you're in Colorado," he says.

As for maintenance, the Robertses says they wash the glass once or twice a year, but definitely after the winter. The job is done with mops, squeegees and a power washer.

In terms of durability, the Robertses say they had one small leak early on, but that was repaired quickly.

Nor have they had any problem with another early concern: summer heat.

"It really doesn't get that hot out here," Virginia says. "We open the windows and put on the fan, or we just leave the sliding door open and use the air conditioning."

Although the Roberts conservatory serves as a kind of 365-days-a-year backyard patio, sunrooms can be used for everything from great rooms to kitchens to dining rooms to coverings for swimming pools.

Finding the right sunroom is a matter of deciding what you are looking for and how much you want to spend, and then finding the dealer who can best meet your needs.

The sunroom might not cure cabin fever or eliminate the need for a winter vacation, but outside of a plane ticket south, it could be the next-best thing.

THIS IS A HAMMER Buzzing circuit box

By SAMANTHA MAZZOTTA
(C) 2004 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Q: I have recently noticed that there is a buzzing sound coming from my electrical box. It does not last long (a minute or so), but it seems to happen while it is cold and my furnace is running. I hear this buzz off and on. Could one of the circuits be loose? Should I be concerned? What do you recommend?—**Buzz in Pueblo, Colo.**

A: That buzzing sound may be nothing, but it definitely needs checking out because of its location—in the circuit box—and because of when it occurs—when a major appliance, in this case the furnace, is running.

First, a little basic information on the circuit box, or main service panel. This square, gray, unassuming box is the key component in your home's electrical system. Power sent by the electric company is fed directly to the service panel through two 120-volt wires and one grounded, neutral wire. The service panel's job is to distribute that electricity throughout the home using several circuits, each of which leads to a number of power outlets, light switches, appliances and so on. The circuits run through the house and then circle back to the service panel, which contains a main circuit wire that returns the electrical current to a neutral service line and out to the transformer on the utility pole nearest your house.

Resetting the breaker to which the furnace's circuit is attached probably won't stop the buzzing, especially if there is a loose wire connection somewhere. The loose connection could be in the service panel, in or near the furnace's control panel, or anywhere along the line.

If a loose connection is in the furnace's control panel, turning off power to the circuit and inspecting the wire connections within the furnace panel is one option. However, the furnace manufacturer might prefer that you didn't do that, and opening the panel may invalidate any warranty on the appliance. It's also not safe for do-it-yourselfers with little or no electrical repair experience.

If a loose connection is in the service panel, you shouldn't even consider looking for it. There are 240 volts of electricity being delivered to that circuit box, something you don't want to get close to.

Therefore, I recommend calling a licensed electrician to come and inspect the box, the furnace and the circuit between them. The problem may only take a professional a minute or two to fix, but it's worth the cost when safety is an issue.

HOME TIP

Service panels providing 100 amps of power to home circuits are now standard in wiring systems of new homes. For large homes with several major appliances, a 150-amp service panel can be installed.

Send questions or home repair tips to homeguru2000@hotmail.com, or write *This Is a Hammer*, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

A different kitchen timer

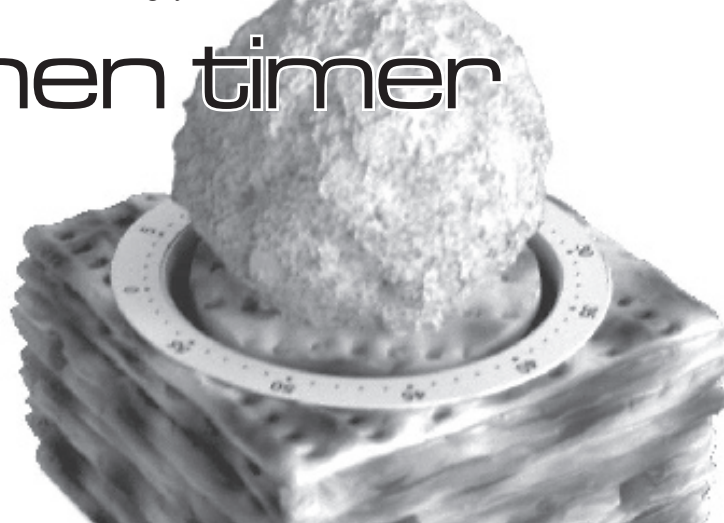
By JURA KONCIUS
THE WASHINGTON POST

Why is this kitchen timer different from all others? Well, how often do you see one that looks like a matzoh ball?

Sam Kugler, proprietor of Kugler's Home Fashions in Silver Spring, Md., says he's long been on the lookout for the perfect hostess gift for Passover season, which this year begins on April 5.

"Everybody already has seder plates and wine goblets," says Kugler, whose store carries linens, housewares and home accessories, many at close-out prices. "And who wants to spend \$100?" So he flipped when he found a line of kitchenwares with a matzoh motif, including aprons (\$18.99) oven mitts (\$3.99) and the timer (\$16.99), which looks like a stack of matzohs with a matzoh ball on top.

Available at Kugler's Home Fashions (301-593-8905 at www.kuglers.com).



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Life & Style

'Spider-Man 2' to hit theaters in June

By DAVID GERMAIN
AP MOVIE WRITER

Feel that prickly sensation on the back of your neck? It must be your spider sense telling you the year's hottest sequel is arriving sooner than expected.

"Spider-Man 2" will hit theaters June 30, two days earlier than scheduled, said Jeff Blake, vice chairman of Sony Studios.

That gives the movie a two-day head start on the Fourth of July weekend, one of the busiest times of the year at theaters.

The announcement Wednesday night at theater owners' annual ShoWest convention came with more good news: A third installment in the "Spider-Man" franchise, based on the Marvel Comics superhero, is due out May 4, 2007.

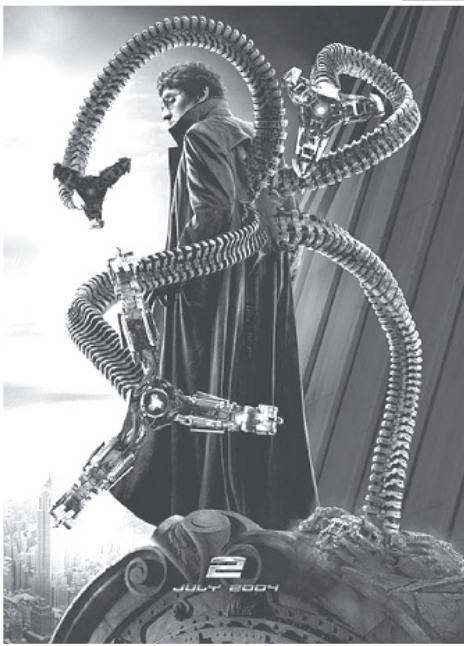
Starring Tobey Maguire as the masked do-gooder, "Spider-Man" had a record \$114.8 million opening weekend and was the top-grossing movie of

2002 with a \$403.7 million domestic haul.

Even in a summer packed with such likely blockbusters as "Shrek 2" and "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban," "Spider-Man 2" is the season's most-awaited adventure and stands the best chance of passing \$300 million megahit "The Passion of the Christ" to become this year's biggest monemaymaker.

"We obviously had enormous success with the first one, which we couldn't have predicted," Maguire, appearing alongside co-star Kirsten Dunst, told theater owners at ShoWest. "And we think we're going to do it again."

That seems a safe bet, based on theater owners' hearty cheers and applause for footage of "Spider-Man 2" that Sony previewed Wednesday. The studio showed off the final theatrical trailer, which debuts in theaters April 9, plus an extended action



sequence in which Spider-Man battles multi-tentacled villain Doc Ock (Alfred Molina) on a speeding mass-transit train.

"We really put everything we had into the second 'Spider-Man,'" said Sam Raimi,

who directed the original and the sequel. "We think it's a great family picture and a great love story."

The new trailer shows Maguire's Peter Parker trash-canning his Spider-Man suit and rejecting the superhero life so he can woo his sweetheart, Mary Jane Watson (Dunst). But the threat of Doc Ock forces Spider-Man

back on the job.

Even with many of the visual effects unfinished, the action sequence wowed the crowd. Shooting dozens of sinewy web strands, Spider-Man uses himself as a living brake pad to slow the train before it plummets off a steep drop at the end of the rail tracks.

Fainting from the exertion,

Spider-Man begins toppling off the edge himself, when the hands of commuters he's saved reach out from inside the train to pull him to safety, passing his limp body overhead and setting him down tenderly.

When our hero regains consciousness, a boy on the train tells him, "It's good to have you back, Spider-Man."

'Dateline NBC' pulls out stops for Trump

NEW YORK (AP)—"Dateline NBC" plans roughly two hours of stories about "The Apprentice" surrounding its finale next month, including a profile of star Donald Trump.

The plan may kindle a debate about whether television networks are using news programs less for news than for promotion.

"I think it's a disgrace," said Larry Grossman, a former NBC News president. "It's clearly using the news division to hype the network's entertainment schedule. I can't imagine it's a serious, legitimate news issue, unless they're going to expose the program for some sort of scandal, which I don't think will happen."

David Corvo, executive producer of "Dateline NBC," said "The Apprentice" has become

a cultural phenomenon that has fascinated his audience.

Between commercials on the network and stories in the press, most TV viewers will be well aware of "The Apprentice" finale on April 15 before the "Dateline NBC" stories run the days before and after, he said.

"We're trying to respond to the interest," Corvo said. "They don't need us to inspire the interest. It's sort of backwards."

"The Apprentice" was the fourth-most popular show on television last week, attracting 17.5 million viewers. Corvo said "Dateline NBC" hasn't reported on the show yet, although it has done three stories about Fox's "American Idol," with another in the works.

The full hour of "Dateline NBC" on April 14 will be devoted

to a behind-the-scenes look at the boardroom game. The Trump profile will run April 16. About half of a two-hour "Dateline" that night will likely be about "The Apprentice," he said.

The newsmagazine will report on how business schools are using the reality show as a teaching tool, he said.

And there will be even more Trump on NBC that week: Three days before "The Apprentice" finale, NBC is airing the "Miss USA" pageant, which is partly owned by Trump; preceding it will a "Miss USA"-themed edition of "Fear Factor."

NBC executives applied no pressure for a tie-in, Corvo said. Jeff Zucker, a former "Today" show executive producer, is responsible for both NBC's news and entertainment divisions.

obit

Enrique Iglesias scraps two Asian concerts

HONG KONG (AP)—Enrique Iglesias had to cancel concerts in Hong Kong and Manila after visa problems in Malaysia disrupted his entourage's travel arrangements, a promoter said Friday.

The son of Latin singing legend Julio Iglesias had to scrap parts of his Asian tour when Malaysia was slow to issue required work permits for an appearance in Kuala Lumpur, said Nigel Peters of Midas Promotions in Hong Kong.

The delays made it impossible to ship everything needed for the huge show in all cities where it had been scheduled, Peters said.

"When you're moving 25 tons of equipment and nearly 55 people, you can't just keep changing the schedule," Peters told The Associated Press. "It reached a position where it just wasn't cost-effective for the artist. If it's just a small group and a couple of crates of equipment, it's no problem."

Malaysia eventually approved the paperwork, but it was too late to reinstate the Hong Kong concert, which had been scheduled for April 6, Peters said. Iglesias also has to miss an April 2 concert in Manila, Peters said.

Sources: Jerry Orbach leaving 'Law & Order'

NEW YORK (AP)—It may be time for a less stressful job for Detective Lennie Briscoe.

Veteran "Law & Order" actor Jerry Orbach is likely to leave the hit NBC drama after this season, his 12th as Briscoe, according to industry sources who would not speak for attribution on Friday.



Orbach

Orbach may not venture too far professionally: he's reportedly in line for a job in the fourth installment

of the crime franchise, "Law & Order: Trial By Jury."

That series is expected to join "Law & Order," "Law & Order: SVU" and "Law & Order: Criminal Intent" on the NBC schedule next fall.

Orbach has portrayed Briscoe since 1992, the show's third season. It's still going strong in the ratings for NBC, and reruns are also a hit on cable's TNT.

"Law & Order has a 15-year track record that (series creator and executive producer) Dick Wolf never comments about casting changes during the season," said Neil Schubert, a spokesman for Universal Studios.



LOS ANGELES (AP)—VH1 plans to run a movie that chronicles Michael Jackson's life from the height of his success to his current legal woes, the music channel said Friday.

A casting search is in progress for actors to play Jackson, family members and others who figured in his life. An air date was not announced for the unauthorized biography.

The film, with the working title "Family Values," is in preproduction in Calgary, Alberta, VH1 said.

Jackson was charged last year with seven counts of committing lewd or lascivious acts upon a child under age 14 and two counts of administering an intoxicating agent to the child. He has pleaded innocent.

Michael Jackson enters the courthouse in Santa Maria, Calif., in this Jan. 16, 2004, file photo, for his arraignment on child molestation charges.

AP

Designer Tom Ford to receive style award

NEW YORK (AP)—Tom Ford, who has presented his farewell collections for Gucci and Yves Saint Laurent, is getting a plaque on one of the world's most famous shopping streets.

Ford is the second recipient of the Rodeo Drive Walk of Style Award, to be presented Sunday in Los Angeles. Giorgio Armani received the inaugural award, which salutes designers who successfully blend style and entertainment.

"I don't think of this as a lifetime achievement award, maybe for my lifetime in fashion, but not my whole life," he said in a recent interview.

The 42-year-old designer, who rose to cult figure status with his revival of the Gucci label, is stepping down as creative director of Gucci Group.

He lost out in contract talks with the two houses' French parent company, Pinault-Printemps-Redoute, and now dreams of directing movies.

Peri Ellen Berne, chairwoman of the Walk of Style committee, said Ford's selection had nothing to do with his departure from Gucci or the industry.

"Pretty much right after Giorgio Armani, we knew it would be Tom Ford," she said. But, Berne added, "We're thrilled that we can pay tribute to him in our own special way."

Ford was selected by a committee of merchants, landowners and hoteliers from a nomination list submitted by



AP

American fashion designer Tom Ford acknowledges applause after the presentation of Yves Saint Laurent Rive Gauche's fall-winter 2004-2005 ready-to-wear collection presented in Paris March 7, 2004.

a group of academics, fashion and movie insiders.

"Tom Ford is quite a natural for this," Berne said. "We honor those whose contributions to fashion and Hollywood are parallel. This is indicative of Tom Ford's impact on the industry."

Ford, who will split his time be-

tween homes in Los Angeles and London, laughs a little at his own wardrobe. "I wear almost the same thing every day, a dark suit and a white shirt. For evening, a velvet jacket, a white shirt and dark trousers. It's almost a uniform."

"Fashion is the last thing I want to think about for myself."

Girlfriend's critical remarks could close couple's show

By AVIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEARABBY: My girlfriend and I have been a couple for almost two years and have been living together for two months. We rented a house so it would be "our" home, and neither of us would feel that we had moved in on the other.



Dear Abby

At first, we split all the chores. She likes to cook, I like to clean; she did the laundry, I did the yardwork. Now she doesn't do anything at all! I find myself doing all the laundry, cooking, etc.,

which to tell you the truth, I don't really mind. What I DO mind

is her constant complaints about the way I do things. She implies that I am incompetent, yet she won't lift a finger. In the morning before work, if I am busy doing chores and paying bills, she complains that I'm not spending enough time with her. But when I stop, she only wants to watch TV. When I try to talk to her about it, she yells and storms off.

Is it possible to fall out of love with someone over things like this? Or am I just disillusioned? When I look at her, I don't feel that twinge of excitement anymore.

EXHAUSTED AND FRUSTRATED

DEAR EXHAUSTED: Yes, it is indeed possible to fall out of love with someone who is lazy, hypercritical and impossible to please. Consider yourself fortunate to have seen this side of your girlfriend before it was too late. Frankly, you deserve better—so don't look back.

DEAR ABBY: Before I married my husband, I had, shall we say, a "colorful past." None of those encounters gave me much satisfaction. I was up front about it with my husband before we married. He asked how many and I told him.

Last night, I made an off-the-cuff remark that he took the wrong way. He told me later that it reminded him of my past. He felt I was bragging about it and throwing it in his face. He told me that after he learned how experienced I was, he had almost broken up with me.

Abby, I have explained to him repeatedly that the only relationship that has ever given me any pleasure has been with him. I have told him over and over how much I love him and need him. But this hurts. How do I help him get over my past?

HURTING IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR HURTING: Men who ask the question are often insecure. An emotionally mature man would have respected your privacy and not pushed. The next time he brings up your past, suggest to him that it is healthier and more fruitful to live in the present. Assure him that you love him only and offer to go to counseling together until he has talked it out. The rest is up to him.

DEAR ABBY: My sister-in-law gave my daughter a beautiful antique desk a few months ago. I was there at the time, and both of us thanked her for the generous gift.

My mother says I was rude for not sending a thank-you card for the gift.

What is the proper etiquette when someone receives a gift and thanks the giver in person? Is an additional written thank-you card called for?

CONCERNING MANNERS

DEAR CONCERNING: In addition to thanking the giver in person, a handwritten note is the proper way to show gratitude for a gift. It doesn't have to be long and flowery—only heartfelt. However, the person who receives the gift should write the note—and that's your daughter, not you.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)



28 SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2004

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2004 27



Philadelphia beats Cleveland, 86-71

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—John Salmons had a career-high 22 points in leading Philadelphia to a 86-71 victory over the Cleveland Cavaliers on Friday, keeping the Sixers' once-fading playoff hopes alive.

"The season is so long," Salmons said. "It's been hard to stay focused when we're losing and there's coaching changes and injuries. The year's been so crazy that I'm just trying to stay focused on what I have to do."

Kenny Thomas had 19 points and Eric Snow added 13 assists for the Sixers, who won their third straight game—all without injured All-Star Allen Iverson.

Cleveland lost its fourth in a row, while Philadelphia pulled within one game of the Cavaliers, who began the night with a half-game lead over Boston for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

"We're just not playing the way we were three weeks ago," Cleveland's LeBron James said. "A lot of other teams have been stepping up and we really aren't. But we're OK. We're going to find it."

James had 16 points on 5-for-13 shooting to lead Cleveland, which had won seven straight prior to its slide.

Pacers 107, Magic 92

In Orlando, Florida, Ron Artest scored a career-high 35 points to lead Indiana over Orlando, as All-Stars Jermaine O'Neal and Tracy McGrady sat out with injuries.

Al Harrington had 19 points, and Jeff Foster added 16 points and 11 rebounds in the Pacers' third straight victory.

With more shots available, Tyronn Lue set a career-high with 32 points and Juwan Howard added 24. Lue's 13 field goals and 19 attempts also were career bests. But Orlando couldn't overcome 21 turnovers and a defense that allowed 25 shots from point-blank range.



Philadelphia 76ers' Samuel Dalembert, left, of Haiti does a one-handed reverse dunk in front of Cleveland Cavaliers' Zydrunas Ilgauskas of Lithuania during the first half Friday, March 26, 2004, in Philadelphia.

Knicks 108, Raptors 101

In New York, with three key players out with injuries, Stephon Marbury had 38 points and nine assists to lead New York past Toronto.

Reserves DerMarr Johnson and Michael Sweetney made big contributions, with Johnson producing 15 points and seven rebounds.

Sweetney, a rookie forward, hit a pair of free throws, stole a loose ball from Vince Carter and dunked to put New York up 80-79 in the fourth quarter, and the Knicks never trailed again. Sweetney finished with eight

points and nine rebounds.

The win clinched the season series for the Knicks, 3-1. New York is in seventh place in the tightly-packed Eastern Conference playoff race.

Carter scored 40 for Toronto.

Celtics 102, Nets 93

In Boston, Paul Pierce scored 34 points to help Boston beat New Jersey take over eighth place in the Eastern Conference.

New Jersey fell to 1-3 without Jason Kidd and Kenyon Martin.

The Celtics moved a half-game ahead of Cleveland, which lost to Philadelphia.

New Jersey pulled to 98-89 on consecutive 3-pointers by Lucious Harris, who had 15 points as the starter in place of Kidd. The closest the Nets came after that was 100-93 on a dunk by Richard Jefferson with 32 seconds remaining.

Chucky Atkins had 17 points and Walter McCarty 15 for the Celtics.

Suns 99, Hornets 94

In New Orleans, Amare Stoudemire scored 25 points while Shawn Marion had 21 points and 10 rebounds as Phoenix beat New Orleans.

New Orleans lost its second straight game without leading scorer Baron Davis, who's expected to be out up to two weeks while the Hornets embark on a five-game West Coast trip.

New Orleans shot 9-of-18 in the final period, including 4-of-6 3-pointers—three by Steve Smith. Jamaal Magloire's jump hook had the Hornets as close as 95-94 with 35 seconds left, but Joe Johnson ended his 17-point performance by hitting a jumper over David Wesley with 13 seconds to go.

Grizzlies 109, Rockets 86

In Memphis, Tennessee, Stromile Swift had 19 points and 10 rebounds, and the surging Memphis rode a big early lead to a victory over Houston.

Jason Williams added 18 points as Memphis won its fourth straight game and 12th in its last 14.

Five Grizzlies finished in double figures in a game so lopsided that most of the starters were on the bench for the final 10 minutes.

James Posey, Pau Gasol and Bonzi Wells added 12 points apiece for Memphis.

Steve Francis had 17 points for the Rockets.

The Grizzlies led 39-19 after one, 59-42 at the half and 86-65 going into the final period.

Bucks 115, Bulls 105

In Chicago, Joe Smith grabbed

23 points Desmond Mason had 22 as Milwaukee remained in fifth place in the Eastern Conference and overcame an injury to Keith Van Horn to defeat Chicago.

Milwaukee snapped a five-game losing streak to the Bulls in Chicago.

Van Horn did not return after spraining his left ankle in the first quarter. He scored six points.

In his third appearance with Chicago, Jannero Pargo tied a franchise record for most 3's in a game with seven. Michael Jordan and Jalen Rose share the record. Pargo scored a career-high 34 points, shooting 13-for-22 from the floor with nine assists.

Heat 119, Mavericks 118, OT

In Miami, Rafer Alston's 3-pointer with 0.5 seconds left in overtime extended gave Miami a win over Dallas to extend its winning streak to seven games.

Marquis Daniels scored a career-high 31 points for the Mavericks, who lost their third successive game. Dirk Nowitzki added 25 before fouling out with 1:53 left in the fourth quarter.

Dwyane Wade had 24 points for Miami, which also extended its home winning streak to eight games. Lamar Odom added 26 points and 18 rebounds, and Eddie Jones and Alston each scored 20.

Warriors 99, Wizards 78

In Oakland, California, Erick Dampier had 19 points and 21 rebounds as Golden State rolled over Washington for its sixth straight victory.

Jason Richardson had 16 points and nine rebounds for the Warriors, who made quick work of Gilbert Arenas—their teammate for the previous two seasons.

Golden State is on its longest winning streak of the season, though it follows a nine-game losing streak that probably will keep the War-

riors out of the playoffs for the 10th straight season.

It was an anticlimactic return for Arenas, who was booed every time he touched the ball until the Oakland fans lost interest during the second half.

SuperSonics 102, Nuggets 86?

In Seattle, Ray Allen scored 27 points as Seattle gained ground in its improbable quest for the playoffs.

It was the Sonics' seventh straight victory and pulled them within three games of the Nuggets and Utah Jazz, who are tied for the eighth and final playoff spot in the conference.

Allen shot 10-of-22 from the field. For the second game in a row, he gave the Sonics a big boost in the third quarter by scoring Seattle's first nine points. In Wednesday's win over Utah, he scored 18 of his 26 points in the third quarter.

Ronald Murray had 19 points and Vladimir Radmanovic added 17 for Seattle, which has won seven games in a row for the first time since January, 2000.

Lakers 90, Timberwolves 73

In Los Angeles, Kobe Bryant scored 35 points and Shaquille O'Neal had 22 points and 18 rebounds to lead the Los Angeles Lakers past Minnesota for their seventh consecutive victory.

Los Angeles' first win in four games against Minnesota this season moved the Lakers (49-23) ahead of the Timberwolves (49-24) for the Western Conference's second-best record.

The Lakers, with all four of their superstars healthy again, were coming off a 24-point victory over Sacramento on Wednesday. Los Angeles trails the Kings by 1 1/2 games.

Latrell Sprewell led the Timberwolves, who have lost the first two games of a four-game road trip, with 19 points, but he was just 5-of-15 from the floor. Kevin Garnett, usually guarded by Malone, went 6-of-18 and had 16 points.

Xavier reaches round of eight for first time

ATLANTA (AP)—Romain Sato of the Central African Republic scored 27 points and backcourt mate Lionel Chalmers added 14 Friday to help the Xavier Musketeers beat Texas 79-71 in the semifinals of the Atlanta Regional.

No. 7 seed Xavier (26-10) won for the 16th time in 17 games and advanced to Sunday's regional final against Duke. Brandon Mouton had 21 before fouling out for the Longhorns (25-8), who were trying to reach the Final Four for the second straight season. Brian

Boddicker added 11, and P.J. Tucker finished with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Duke 72, Illinois 62

In Atlanta, Chris Duhon dragged himself off the floor time and time again to steer Duke into an all-too-familiar position — one win from the Final Four.

Duhon, nursing sore ribs, attempted only one shot, but it didn't matter for Duke (30-5). The point guard dished out eight assists and kept sneaking inside for rebounds, winding up with a game-high 10. He also helped hold Illinois' top scorer, Deron

Williams, to just seven points on 3-of-13 shooting.

Luol Deng led the Blue Devils with 18 points, while J.J. Redick added 17 and Shelden Williams 14. But it was Duhon, the senior leader, who set the tone.

Kansas 100, UAB 74

In St. Louis, Wayne Simien had 30 points, nine rebounds and five assists as Kansas had few problems handling Alabama-Birmingham's frenetic defense, moving a step closer to their third straight Final Four.

Kansas (24-8) advanced to play Georgia Tech for a trip to San An-

tonio. The St. Louis Regional final will be played Sunday.

Aaron Miles keyed it all by out-running the press, either hitting all sorts of twisting layups or dishing off to wide-open teammates. He finished with 10 assists.

Freshman J.R. Giddens had 18 points and Jeff Graves added 13 points and eight rebounds.

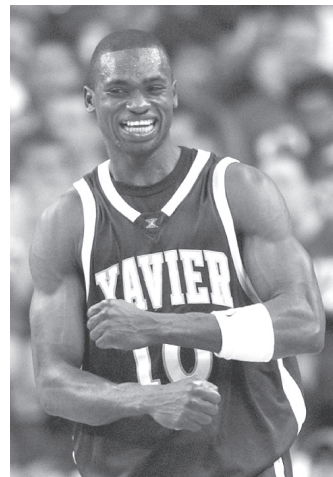
Georgia Tech 72, Nevada 67

In St. Louis, Marvin Lewis had 23 points and Will Bynum made a huge layup with 65 seconds left to give Georgia Tech a victory over Nevada.

The third-seeded Yellow Jackets (26-9) are in the regional finals for just the third time in school history and the first time since 1990.

The 10th-seeded Wolf Pack (25-9) knocked off Michigan State and routed Gonzaga to make the round of 16, and it seemed as if another upset was in the making early—especially with Georgia Tech forced to play without B.J. Elder.

Elder, who is averaging 16.2 points, sprained his right ankle less than two minutes into the game when Kirk Snyder landed on it.



Xavier guard Romain Sato (10) celebrates as Xavier beat Texas 79-71 in their NCAA regional game at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, Friday, March 26, 2004.

Tiger Woods easily makes cut at TPC

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP GOLF WRITER



PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Tiger Woods needed only three holes to take the suspense out of making his 120th consecutive cut Friday at The Players Championship.

He'll need all 36 holes the final two days to catch up to Kevin Sutherland and Jerry Kelly.

Sutherland holed an 80-foot bunker shot on his way to a 3-under 69 for his first 36-hole lead in eight years. Kelly joined him with a 66, a mixture of short birdie putts and a scrappy short game on the TPC at Sawgrass.

They were at 9-under 135, facing a tough test on the weekend and a leaderboard littered with big names.

Ernie Els (69) and Adam Scott (72) were two shots back. Vijay Singh (68) and Padraig Harrington (70) were right behind them. Phil Mickelson (69) made par despite driving into the water on No. 18 and was only four shots off the lead.

The best news for Woods is that his 69 was good enough for a tee time Saturday.

Starting the day at 3 over and in 108th place, Woods played with purpose. He hit a 5-iron shot from 208 yards that dropped and stopped 10 feet from the hole for eagle on the par-5 11th (his second hole), then followed that with a wedge into 10 feet for birdie.

Woods went up 64 spots into a tie for 44th, but wasn't entirely pleased. He never gained another shot on the lead the rest



Tiger Woods, right, and his caddie, Steve Williams, talk as Woods waits to play the 12th hole during the second round of the Players Championship, Friday, March 26, 2004, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

of the round, and wound up at even-par 144.

"I was trying to shoot 66," Woods said. "I thought 3 under would put me right where I needed to be. Now, I need to post a good, solid number to put myself to where I have a chance Sunday afternoon."

The cut was at 146, so Woods had two shots to spare.

He certainly got his share of breaks along the way, as did Kelly, Scott and other late starters.

A week of sunshine finally gave way to clouds and rain right when Woods took the long walk over to the 17th tee to face the island green. He hit land this time, and negotiated 60 feet, three breaks and one big ridge in two putts.

Sawgrass was no pushover, but the rain helped soften the yellow sheen on greens that had been getting firm.

"When we got to No. 10 and I saw how crusty that green was,

I thought we were in for a tough day," Kelly said.

Woods picked up his only birdie on his second nine when a chip from deep rough rammed into the flagstick and spun around the hole; otherwise, it would have rolled as much as 15 feet by.

Kelly, who has played bogey-free for two days, made his own breaks.

He made five birdies inside 5 feet — birdies on both par 3s on the back nine — and holed a 35-footer on No. 5. Then, it was a matter of hanging on.

Kelly saved par from deep rough just off the sixth green with what he called a "down-hill, buried, bump-and-run, up-and-down" — otherwise known as an outstanding chip that just hopped out of the thick grass and rolled to 4 feet.

"The round-saver," he said.

Sutherland can relate. He drove into rough so deep on No. 14 that he had a hard time even identify-

Reitsma sent to Braves; Tigers get Urbina



The Atlanta Braves added some bullpen insurance in right-hander Chris Reitsma.

The Detroit Tigers have a new reliever, too.

The Braves traded two pitching prospects Friday for Reitsma, who filled every role on the Cincinnati Reds' staff but never found his niche.

He'll have one in Atlanta, which made two trades in less than 24 hours to upgrade a bullpen that was a major concern. Reitsma, 26, took over as the Reds' closer after Scott Williamson was traded in July, and demonstrated he can finish games.

"He was an absolutely outstanding pitcher in the role he took on last year," Braves general manager John Schuerholz said. "We tried hard to get him last year for our pennant run and again this winter. Our people evaluated him as one of the top guys in the business in the role he's now doing."

The Tigers and free-agent closer Ugueth Urbina agreed to a \$3.5 million, one-year deal that reunited him with former Florida catcher Ivan Rodriguez.

Cut loose by the Marlins after they won the World Series, Urbina took his time choosing a new team. Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Montreal, Minnesota and San Francisco were among several clubs that talked to him, and he also attracted interest in Japan.

Urbina worked out with the Tigers this week while manager Alan Trammell watched. Detroit set an AL record with 119 losses last season, and no reliever on the staff had more than five saves.

Urbina started last season with Texas and had 26 saves before being traded to the Marlins. He split the closer's role with Braden Loper down the stretch, then earned two saves against the New York Yankees in the World Series.

With the Braves, Reitsma will set up John Smoltz for now. Smoltz has 100 saves the last two seasons but is coming off his fourth elbow operation.

"He gives us protection," Schuerholz said of his new reliever.

Reitsma was voted Cincinnati's outstanding pitcher last season, when he filled just about every role on the staff. He went

9-5 with a 4.29 ERA and 12 saves in three starts and 54 relief appearances.

The Reds obtained left-hander Jung Keun Bong and right-hander Bubba Nelson. Both are younger than Reitsma and are considered starters primarily.

"I was taken by complete surprise today," Reitsma said in Sarasota, Fla. "It wasn't like I knew it was coming."

The Braves, who have won a record 12 straight division titles, have given up three pitching prospects to bolster their bullpen. Atlanta acquired right-hander Juan Cruz from the Chicago Cubs on Thursday for minor league pitcher Andy Pratt and infielder Richard Lewis.

Reitsma and Cruz will open the season in the bullpen. Jaret Wright is expected to be the fifth starter.

Also, the Yankees and Tampa Bay Devil Rays arrived in Tokyo for their season-opening two-game series and looked just plain pooped when they walked into their hotel in the middle of the night, fighting jet lag from their nearly day-long journeys. (AP)

ing his ball. He wasn't sure he could advance it 15 yards, but it came out hot, through the fairway, into a bunker and behind a tree.

He wound up holing a 12-foot putt for bogey.

"That was huge," he said. "Making that putt was like making a birdie putt as far as momentum goes."

The next hole was even better. Sutherland hit into a bunker

from the left rough, then holed the 80-foot sand shot for an unlikely birdie. He couldn't help but smile and give a high-five to his caddie.

The only other time Sutherland has been in the lead after 36 holes was in the 1996 Greater Hartford Open, and he wound up in a tie for ninth.

"I wasn't coming here expecting to have the lead after two rounds,

but I did come here expecting to play well," Sutherland said.

Maybe he should have. Sutherland's only victory on the PGA Tour came two years ago at the Match Play Championship, which earned him \$1 million. Players were told Tuesday night that the purse was \$8 million for The Players Championship, with \$1.44 million going to the winner.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-New Jersey	42	29	.592	—
Miami	35	37	.486	7 1-2
New York	34	39	.466	9
Boston	32	40	.444	10 1-2
Philadelphia	31	42	.425	12
Washington	23	49	.319	19 1-2
Orlando	19	55	.257	24 1-2

CENTRAL DIVISION

x-Indiana	53	19	.736	—
x-Detroit	46	27	.630	7 1-2
New Orleans	37	36	.507	16 1-2
Milwaukee	36	36	.500	17
Cleveland	31	40	.437	21 1-2
Toronto	30	42	.417	23
Atlanta	23	49	.319	30
Chicago	20	52	.278	33

WESTERN CONFERENCE MIDWEST DIVISION

x-Minnesota	49	24	.671	—
San Antonio	47	25	.653	1 1-2
Memphis	46	26	.639	2 1-2
Dallas	44	28	.611	4 1-2
Houston	41	30	.577	7
Denver	38	36	.514	11 1-2
Utah	37	35	.514	11 1-2

PACIFIC DIVISION

x-Sacramento	51	21	.708	—
x-L.A. Lakers	49	23	.681	2
Portland	36	35	.507	14 1-2
Seattle	34	38	.472	17
Golden State	31	40	.437	19 1-2
L.A. Clippers	27	46	.370	24 1-2
Phoenix	25	48	.342	26 1-2

x-clinched playoff spot

YESTERDAY'S GAMES

Philadelphia 86, Cleveland 71
Indiana 107, Orlando 92
New York 108, Toronto 101
Boston 102, New Jersey 93
Phoenix 99, New Orleans 94
Memphis 109, Houston 86
Miami 119, Dallas 118, OT
Milwaukee 115, Chicago 105
Golden State 99, Washington 78
Seattle 102, Denver 86
L.A. Lakers 90, Minnesota 73

Scott Verplank	68-75	143
Ian Poulter	70-73	143
Joey Sindelar	73-70	143
Paul Stankowski	73-70	143
Jesper Parnevik	72-71	143
Stewart Cink	70-73	143
Neal Lancaster	72-71	143
Shigeki Maruyama	70-73	143
John Huston	72-71	143
Ben Crane	71-72	143
Loren Roberts	73-70	143
Todd Hamilton	71-72	143
Mark Calcavecchia	71-72	143
Matt Gogel	72-71	143
Tim Petrovic	71-72	143
Brandt Jobe	68-75	143
Rod Pampling	73-71	144
Fred Funk	73-71	144
Carlos Franco	74-70	144
David Peoples	72-72	144
Stephen Ames	75-69	144
Nick Price	75-69	144
Justin Leonard	75-69	144
Robert Allenby	71-73	144
Tiger Woods	75-69	144
Chad Campbell	75-69	144
Spike McRoy	74-71	145
J.P. Hayes	72-73	145
Steve Elkington	69-76	145
Jay Haas	72-73	145
Peter Jacobsen	72-73	145
Bernhard Langer	71-74	145
Tom Byrum	74-71	145
Woody Austin	76-69	145
Briny Baird	71-74	145
Davis Love III	77-68	145
Greg Norman	72-73	145
Joe Durant	74-71	145
Brad Faxon	70-75	145
Darren Clarke	71-74	145
John Senden	73-72	145
Brett Quigley	73-73	146
Justin Rose	73-73	146
Glen Day	71-75	146
Billy Mayfair	76-70	146
Heath Slocum	73-73	146
Aron Oberholser	73-73	146
Colin Montgomerie	73-73	146
Pat Bates	73-73	146
Scott McCarron	76-70	146
K.J. Choi	67-79	146
Nick Faldo	71-75	146
Shaun Micheel	70-76	146
Craig Stadler	70-76	146
Craig Parry	74-72	146
Jeff Maggert	73-73	146

PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

SECOND ROUND

Kevin Sutherland	66-69	135
Jerry Kelly	69-66	135
Ernie Els	68-69	137
Adam Scott	65-72	137
Vijay Singh	70-68	138
Padraig Harrington	68-70	138
Bob Burns	67-72	139
Duffy Waldorf	66-73	139
Jeff Sluman	69-70	139
Phil Mickelson	70-69	139
Kenny Perry	69-71	140
Bob Tway	69-71	140
Frank Lickliter II	69-71	140
Alex Cejka	69-71	140
Corey Pavin	74-67	141
Matt Kuchar	74-67	141
Cameron Beckman	70-71	141
Rory Sabbatini	73-68	141
Scott Hoch	70-71	141
Sergio Garcia	68-73	141
John Daly	69-73	142
Paul Casey	72-70	142
Tom Pernice, Jr.	72-71	143
Thomas Bjorn	67-76	143
Geoff Ogilvy	73-70	143
Hidemichi Tanaka	72-71	143
Len Mattiace	74-69	143

SPORTS TRANSACTIONS

MLB

ANAHEIM ANGELS-Reassigned RHP Derrick Turnbow to their minor league camp.

CLEVELAND INDIANS-Acquired INF Brent Abernathy from the Detroit Tigers for cash.

DETROIT TIGERS-Agreed to terms with RHP Ugueth Urbina on a one-year contract.

MINNESOTA TWINS-Assigned 1B Justin Mourneau, INF Augie Ojeda and OF Michael Restovich to Rochester of the IL. Sent RHP Adam Johnson outright to Rochester.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS-Assigned OF Nick Swisher to their minor league camp.

SEATTLE MARINERS-Optioned CF Jamal Strong and INF Luis Ugueto to Tacoma of the PCL. Reassigned 1B Bucky Jacobsen and C Luis Oliveros to their minor league camp.

CHICAGO CUBS-Assigned OF Trenidad Hubbard, C Casey Kopitzke, C Fernando Lunar, OF Calvin Murray, INF Bill Selby and RHP Jamey Wright to their minor league camp.

COLLEGE

NCAA-Granted an extra year of eligibility to football K Katie Hnida, who transferred from Colorado to New Mexico.

HARTFORD-Announced the resignation of Jimmy Salgado, defensive backs coach. Named Chip Garber defensive backs coach.

LA SALLE-Named Phillip Petite defensive line coach.

MASSACHUSETTS-Named Jaime Seguin assistant athletic director for business and personnel.

MEMPHIS-Named Tyson Helton special teams and tight ends coach.

MIAMI-Fired Perry Clark, men's basketball coach.

NAVY-Named Billy Lange men's basketball coach.

RHODE ISLAND-Named Peter Quaweway defensive backfield coach.

SMU-Named Jimmy Tubbs men's basketball coach.

WENTWORTH-Named Jonathan Dep-tula men's ice hockey coach.

WEST VIRGINIA-Announced basketball G Tyler Relph and F Jerrah Young will transfer at the end of the academic year.

By The Associated Press

The Week in Sports

Meanwhile back on land...



Derrick Reyes of CUC tries to get open while Dai-Ichi Hotel cager Ed Cho defends during the third quarter of last Tuesday's Mobil Oil Marianas Co-Ed Invitational Basketball tournament at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Dai-ichi won, 68-57.



Mark Wallace of the Sunrisers attempts a shot in the paint against the Ol'Aces I. The Ol'Aces I won, 91-75.

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY MARK RABAGO AND SHAN SEMAN, REPORTERS

Even as the Saipan Ocean Swim and the Saipan Invitational Swim Meet hogged last week's sports news, a few activities on island still got going.

After wrapping up its doubles competition last week, the 1st Annual Toyota Tennis Tournament kicked off singles and mixed doubles play last Tuesday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

More than 80 netters have signed up for both events. The Saipan Tennis Association, the organizer of the tourney, will hold an awards banquet tomorrow to crown the champions of the two-week tennis event.

In basketball, Toyota Ol'Aces I and APC Brothers remained first and second in the team standings of the 2004 Bud Cup after pummeling separate rivals in the last two playdates. Ol'Aces I humbled a struggling Sunrisers squad, 91-75, while the Brothers overwhelmed the Sun Devils, 91-72.

Mobil action last Tuesday then saw Dai-Ichi Hotel deal Commonwealth Utilities Corp. its first loss, 68-57. The other match-up had Commonwealth Ports Authority earn its first win via a 103-77 rout of Pacific Island Aviation.

The Brewers, meanwhile, evened their record in the ongoing 2004 Saipan Major League after slamming the D-9ers, 25-10, last Wednesday at the Francisco M. Palacios baseball field. It was the second win in four starts for the Brewers.

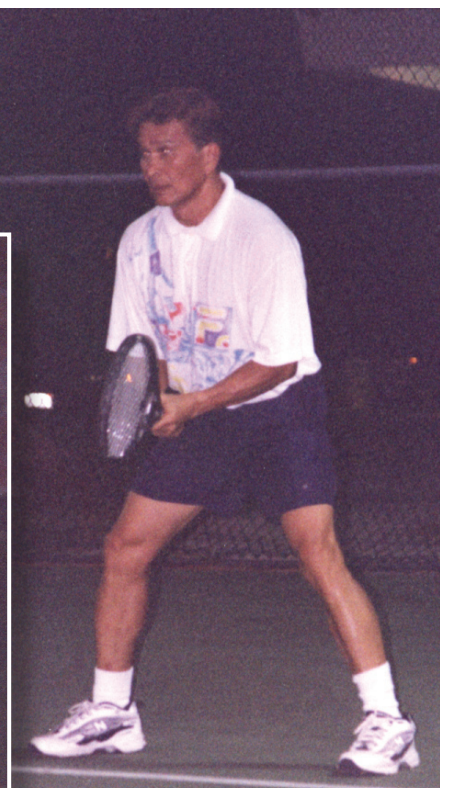
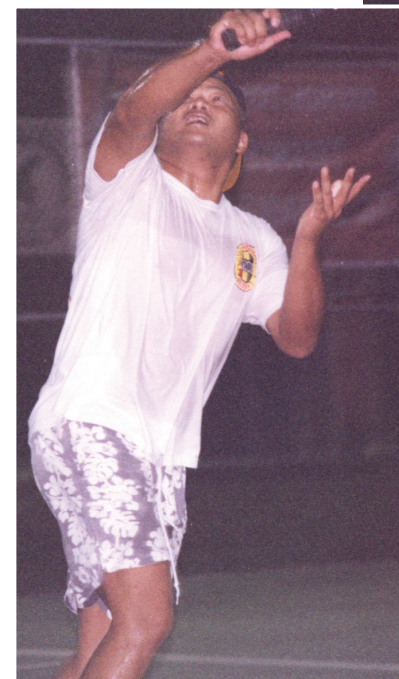
In golf, William Retardo and Ted Malaran were victorious in the Fil-Taga March Ace Tournament held last Sunday at the Coral Ocean Point golf course. Retardo fired a 7-under 65, while Malaran wound up with an 8-under 68.

Last Friday also saw HANMI announce that the Bank of Hawaii has put up a \$20,000 prize for a hole-in-one in the 14th hole of next month's HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament at the COP.



Bank of Hawaii CNMI district manager Stephen Brock, left, and HANMI Golf Committee chairman Ed Salas are all smiles while holding a portion of the \$20,000 donated by Bank of Hawaii for the Par 3 Hole No. 14 hole-in-one cash prize for next month's HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament.

Dino Jones waits for the service of Chuck Sayon in the men's 4.0 singles division of the 1st Annual Toyota Tennis Tournament last Wednesday at the AMP tennis courts.



Chuck Sayon attempts an overhead shot against Jones in the second set of their match. Jones won 6-3, 6-1.



Rezne Wong of SSC was second to Nicolas McCoy in the boys' 11-12 division of the 26th Saipan Ocean Swim.



Alexis McCoy of the International Buccaneers, left, and Nina Mosley of the Saipan Swim Club finished first and second in the 100m freestyle event of the Third Saipan Invitational Swim Meet.



Ilia Corella of the SSC won the 8-and-under age group for girls in the open water swim and took home the High Point trophy in the girls' 8-and-under division of the Saipan Invitational Swim Meet.



Philadelphia beats Cleveland 86-71

John Salmons had a career-high 22 points in leading Philadelphia to a 86-71 victory over the Cleveland Cavaliers on Friday, keeping the Sixers' once-fading playoff hopes alive.

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Meanwhile back on land...

Even as the Saipan Ocean Swim and the Saipan Invitational Swim Meet hogged last week's sports news, a few activities on island still got going.



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE



Splish-splash

A.J. Libut gets off the blocks in the 200-meter freestyle event for boys 13-14 years old.

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY MARK RABAGO
REPORTER

Twin events draw record number of participants

Bill Sakovich capped his involvement in organizing the Saipan Invitational Swim Meet and the Saipan Ocean Swim by drawing more than 200 participants to the three-day competition held from March 11-13 at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool and the waters off World Resort Hotel.

Relocating to Hawaii by the middle of this year, Sakovich also left with a little memento for himself after the former Division of Sports and Recreation director reset the record in the 2.5-mile open water swim for men 60-years-old and over last March 13.

The long-time Saipan Swim Club coach, who used to swim the length of the Golden Gate Bridge, reset the old mark held by Japan's Koji Horiachi.

Sakovich's record-breaking swim in the old timer's competition was one of only four records shattered in the Saipan Ocean Swim.

Others who managed to lower previous marks were International Buccaneers coach David Moodie, Guam's Ellen Argo, and Saipan's Carolyn Calobong-Pierce.

Moodie obliterated the old standard in the 2.5-mile swim for men 40-49 years old. Argo is the new record holder in the 2.5-mile race for women 40-49 years old, while Calobong Pierce reset her old mark in the 1.3-mile for women 40-49 years old.

The Moodie's feat in the open water swim completed a sweep of sorts for the Moodie family. The day before, his son, Kelly and daughter, Kana, copped first place and third place overall in their respective divisions in the invitational meet. And then on Saturday his mother-in-law Yoshiko Amano won the 1.3-mile swim for women 60 and over.

Other winners of the open water swim in the masters division were Greg Shulte, Maggie Greenwood, Hiroyuki Kohara, Kristy Gregg, Takenori Nakajima, Yuko Nakajima, Yoshiharu Endo, A. Wakabayashi, Pepe LaFlamme, Colin Thompson, Rita Bonnici, David Palacios, and Asami Murakami.

Moodie's kids also impressed in the junior division of the open water swim. Kelly topped the boys' 1-mile race for 9 and 10 year olds, while Kana finished fourth in the 600-yard swim for girls 8 and under.

Other winners in the 19-and-under division of the Saipan Ocean Swim were Tarakito's Mariana Gabriel, Buccaneers' Alistair Kershaw, Nicolas McCoy, Alexis McCoy, and Gen Ortiz, Saipan's Amanda Johnson, and Japan's Yu Iwasaki, and Shimpei Ito.



Ilia Corella in action in the 50-meter butterfly event for 8 and under girls.

While only four records fell in the open water swim, 71 of the 156 events in the Saipan Invitational Swim Meet were shattered last March 11 and 12.

Members of the Saipan Swim Club were responsible for eight record-breaking swims. Ilia Corella broke records in the 100-meter backstroke and 50-meter freestyle. Nina Mosley shattered the previous bests in the 200-meter and 100-meter backstroke. Rezne Wong reset the old mark in the 100-meter breaststroke, Juan Camacho swam

a faster 200-meter backstroke, while En Hong Pang eclipsed the old standard in the 50-meter backstroke. Relay swimmers John Benavente, En Hong Pang, En Yang Pang and Wong also made a new record in the boys' 11-12-year-old 200-meter freestyle.

In all, the International Buccaneers finished with a whopping 1,600 points to beat Saipan Swim Club (927 points) and Japan's Capitol Sports (599 points) for the overall championship.

The Buccaneers also captured seven out of the 10 High Point trophies at stake. Taking home Taga latte stone wooden replicas were the brother and sister pairs of Alistair and Izumi Kershaw and Alexis and Nicolas McCoy, and Kelly Moodie, Sang Woo Cheung and Yuya Matsushita.

Ilia Corella claimed Saipan's lone High Point trophy, while Mariana Gabriel and Yuya Iwasaki did the same for Guam's Tarakito and Japan's AQLUB, respectively.



Alistair Kershaw runs to the finish line in the 600-yard open water swim for boys 8 years old and under.